





# Snowstorm threatens to clobber New England

Page 3

Krystal Koban removes snow from around her car during a winter storm, Monday, Feb. 2, 2015, in Henniker, N.H. Winter-weary New England braced Sunday for another round of snow that threatened to bear down on the region into the workweek and pile up to 2 feet in some areas.

Associated Press





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# Another big storm bears down on U.S. Northeast

**BOB SALSBERG  
PHILIP MARCELO**  
Associated Press

**BOSTON (AP)** — Winter-weary residents of the Northeast U.S. braced Sunday for another round of snow bearing down on the region with up to 2 feet (60 centimeters) expected in some areas.

As light snow fell by the afternoon, drivers were

of snow and they're used to it."

Walsh said the city would close schools on Monday and Tuesday, and he urged motorists to stay off the roads until the storm passes. Court closings Monday meant another weather-related delay in jury selection in the Boston Marathon bombing trial and in the murder trial in Fall River,

ing equipment has stalled trains, delaying and angering commuters. Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker acknowledged last week the MBTA was handed an extraordinary situation with old equipment but said

the system's overall performance was unacceptable. Over the weekend, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority said crews were doing everything they could, including deploying massive jet-pow-

ered snow blowers, to clear tracks before the storm. Baker said Boston's subway lines will operate on an abbreviated schedule Monday and he encouraged residents to work from home and avoid travel. □



A woman shields her face from the wind-driven snow while making her through a winter storm in downtown Portland, Maine, Monday, Feb. 2, 2015.

Associated Press

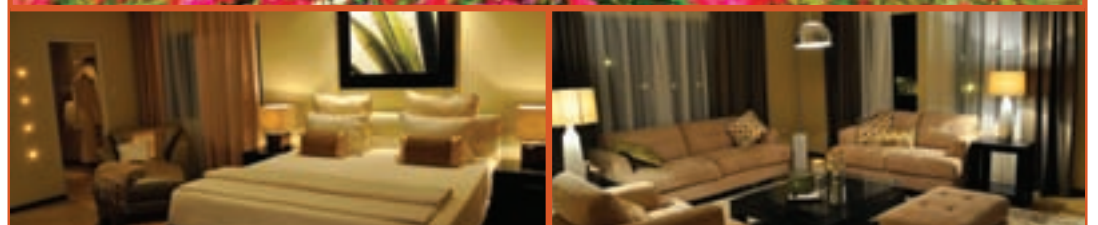
warned to stay off the roads and cancellations were posted for schools and court dockets Monday. The National Weather Service issued winter storm warnings for parts of New York state and much of the northeastern New England states through early Tuesday.

"I'm frustrated. The last thing I want to be talking about is another 24 inches (60 centimeters) of snow. I want to move on to something else," Boston Mayor Marty Walsh said at City Hall. "It's unprecedented ... Maybe up in Alaska or Buffalo, they have this amount

Massachusetts of former Boston Patriots football star Aaron Hernandez.

The snow is likely to cause problems for commuters on Monday, though it's not expected to accumulate as rapidly as in some of the earlier storms, including a record-busting late January blizzard. There also is little risk seen of significant coastal flooding, a problem during last month's winter blasts.

Boston's transit system, the nation's oldest, has been particularly hard hit this winter. The buildup of snow and ice on trolley tracks combined with ag-

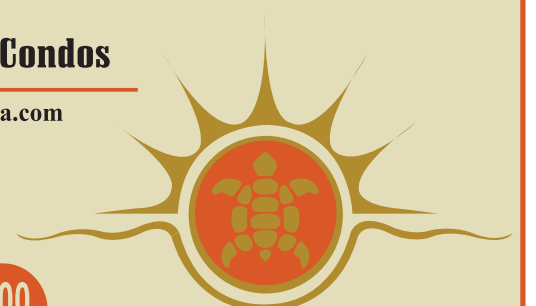


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## FACT CHECK:

# What happens if Homeland Security shuts down?

ERICA WERNER  
ALICIA A. CALDWELL  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Spending for the Department of Homeland Security hangs in the balance as Congress fights over immigration matters in the agency's annual funding bill. Without action by Feb. 27, the department's budget will shut off. Republicans excluded funding for the Department of Homeland Security from the annual government funding bill in an effort to force President Barack Obama to roll back his executive orders that would defer deportation for about 4 million immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. To hear Democrats and many Republicans tell it, the result would be unacceptable risks to U.S. security at a time of grave threats worldwide. In reality, though, most people



In this Nov. 21, 2014 file photo, a TSA agent checks a bag at a security checkpoint area at Midway International Airport in Chicago. Associated Press

will see little change if the department's money flow is halted, and some of the warnings of doom are as exaggerated as they are striking. "There are ghoulish, grim predators out there who would love to kill us or do us harm," said Sen. Barbara

Mikulski, top Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Committee. "We should not be dillydallying and playing parliamentary pingpong with national security." In the view of some House conservatives, though, shutting off the agency's \$40 billion budget for a time

"is obviously not the end of the world," as Republican Rep. Matt Salmon put it, because many agency employees would stay at work through a shutdown. Who's right, and what would the impact be if Congress were to let money for the department lapse? Salmon and a few other conservatives are the only ones saying it publicly so far, but the reality is that a department shutdown would have a very limited impact on national security. That's because most department employees fall into exempted categories of workers who stay on the job in a shutdown because they perform work considered necessary to protect human life and property. Even in a shutdown, most workers across agencies, including the Secret Service, Transportation Security Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency and Customs and Border Protection, would continue to report to work.

Airport security checkpoints would remain staffed, the Secret Service would continue to protect the president and other dignitaries, the Coast Guard would stay on patrol, immigration agents would still be on the job. Indeed, of the agency's approximately 230,000 employees, some 200,000 of them would keep working even if Congress fails to fund their agency. It's a reality that was on display during the 16-day government-wide shutdown in the fall of 2013, when national parks and monuments closed but essential government functions kept running, albeit sometimes on reduced staff. So what of the sometimes overheated rhetoric, often

from Democrats trying to prove a political point? "If this goes to shutdown," Mikulski said, "this could close down ports up and down the East Coast, because if you don't have a Coast Guard, you don't have the ports. You don't have the ports, you don't have an economy." But if the department loses its money, the Coast Guard will stay in operation and so will the ports. There would be one big change, though. Most workers would not get paid until the shutdown ends, a circumstance guaranteed to put pressure on members of Congress hearing from constituents angry about going without their paychecks. Making employees come to work without pay is "a real challenge" for them, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union." Workers at agencies funded by fees, instead of by congressional appropriations, would continue their functions while still drawing a paycheck. It so happens that applies to the very employees charged with putting in place the immigration programs at the heart of the political dispute. Fees pay the salaries of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services workers who would process applications from immigrants eligible to work lawfully in the country under Obama's immigration policies. Even though Republicans are so determined to shut down Obama's program that some are willing to risk Homeland Security money to do it, it would stay up and running with little impact in the event of a shutdown. □



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## Islamic State U.S. hostage's family still hopeful she is alive

**BRIAN SKOLOFF**  
Associated Press.

**PRESCOTT, Arizona (AP)** — The parents of a 26-year-old American who has been held hostage for more than a year by Islamic State extremists were clinging to hope Sunday that their daughter is alive, having yet to receive information confirming otherwise. Family friend Todd Geiler said that the parents of Kayla Jean Mueller of Prescott, Arizona, are in a very "fragile state."

"The strain of not knowing where their daughter is at and whether or not she is alive or not is something that is starting to wear on them," Geiler said. "But if we had to go on ahead and say in a word how they're doing, they're hopeful for her safe return." The parents are asking the nation and the world to pray for Mueller's return, he

said. "This thing, it's time to have an ending. It's time to bring Kayla home to her parents and her family," Geiler said.

The Islamic State group said Friday that Mueller died in a Jordanian airstrike in Syria. The government of Jordan dismissed the statement as propaganda. U.S. officials said they have not seen any evidence to corroborate the report.

Mueller is the only known remaining U.S. hostage held by the Islamic State group. She was taken hostage in August 2013 while leaving a hospital in Syria. Her parents and a few close friends kept Mueller's situation a closely guarded secret to ensure her safety. Since her identity was publicized Friday, they have stayed out of public view but released a short statement addressed to Islamic State.

"You told us that you treated Kayla as your guest, as your guest her safety and well-being remains your responsibility," Mueller's family said.

Meanwhile, the road leading to their Prescott home remains blocked off by Yavapai County Sheriff's Office vehicles. In downtown Prescott, Mueller is on the minds of most people. Tourists stop to look at a handmade "Pray for Kayla" sign at the corner of a busy street.

Mueller is an aid worker who previously volunteered with organizations in India, Israel and the Palestinian territories. She had been working in Turkey assisting Syrian refugees, according to a 2013 article in The Daily Courier, her hometown newspaper. "She knew where she was headed," Geiler said. "She knew what she wanted to do. There was compas-



In this May 30, 2013, photo, Kayla Mueller is shown after speaking to a group in Prescott, Ariz.

Associated Press

sion and caring for those less fortunate. She always wanted to help somebody in need." □



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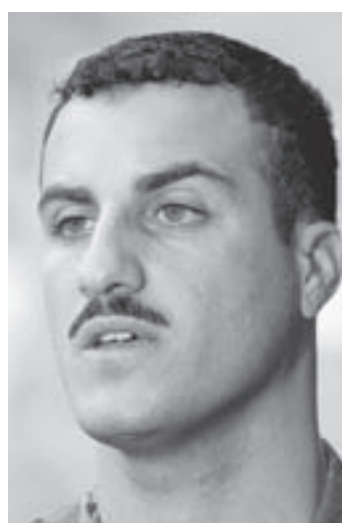


## After a decade of twists, vanishing Marine goes to trial

**JONATHAN DREW**  
**Associated Press**

**RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP)** — A U.S. Marine who vanished from a base in Iraq and later wound up in Lebanon is set to face trial more than a decade after the puzzling case began. Cpl. Wassef Hassoun's court martial on desertion and other charges starts Monday at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Defense attorneys maintain that he was kidnapped in 2004 by insurgents and that later, after briefly returning to the U.S., he became tangled up in Lebanese courts for years. Prosecutors say Hassoun fled his post in Iraq because he was unhappy with his deployment and didn't

like how U.S. troops treated Iraqis. However, a September report from the military equivalent of a grand jury hearing acknowledges that prosecutors could have a hard time proving their largely circumstantial case because of the difficulty in tracking down witnesses. The case began when Hassoun went missing from a base in Fallujah in June 2004. Days later, he appeared blindfolded and with a sword poised above his head in a photo purportedly taken by insurgents. An extremist group claimed to be holding him captive. Not long after that, Hassoun turned up unharmed at the U.S. Embassy in Bei-



In this July 19, 2004 file photo, Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun makes a statement to the press outside Quantico Marine Base in Quantico, Va. Hassoun's trial on desertion accusations starts Monday, Feb. 9, 2015 at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Associated Press

rut, Lebanon, saying he'd been kidnapped. But officials were suspicious, and he was brought back to Camp Lejeune while the military considered charging him with desertion and counts related to a pistol and Humvee he's accused of taking. Hassoun's case occupies some of the same murky territory as that of Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, a soldier who left his post in Afghanistan and was held by the Taliban for five years. The Army is considering what, if any charges or punishment Bergdahl should face. A lawyer for Hassoun, Haytham Faraj, questions why his client's case is heading to trial when many unauthorized absences are handled administratively. "To me it doesn't seem very fair," Faraj said in a recent telephone interview. An expert on military law agreed that most servicemen accused of leaving their post receive administrative punishment. But Philip Cave, a retired Navy lawyer now in private practice, said Hassoun's multiple absences — including one shortly before he faced a court hearing — may explain why his case is being handled with a trial. Hassoun, a native of Lebanon and naturalized American citizen, enlisted in the Marine Corps in January 2002 and served as an Arabic translator. Prosecutors cited witnesses who said Hassoun didn't like how the U.S. was interrogating Iraqis and that he said he wouldn't shoot back at Iraqis. Intelligence documents declassified in recent months shed further light on the investigation of Hassoun's kidnapping claim. A Naval Criminal Investigative

Service report from August 2004 states that Hassoun's family in Lebanon seemed genuinely distraught after news of his kidnapping surfaced, contacting the U.S. Embassy in tears. Another report said the family told investigators that a representative of the Hassoun clan, made up of Sunni Muslims, was able to negotiate with insurgents for Hassoun's release. News that he later returned to the U.S. Embassy in Beirut "sparked a wave of violence and retribution against the Hassoun clan" in Tripoli, Lebanon, a military investigator wrote at the time. Faraj suggested this evidence was either ignored or withheld from prosecutors in 2004. "Someone at a high-enough level with the proper clearances knew that this man had been abducted, and yet they brought charges forward anyway," Faraj said. After he was brought back to Camp Lejeune in 2004, Hassoun was allowed to visit family in Utah. With a military court hearing looming, Hassoun disappeared a second time in early 2005. Prosecutors have said his whereabouts were unknown for years. Hassoun traveled to Lebanon but was arrested by that country's authorities after Interpol issued a bulletin triggered by his deserter status, Faraj said. Translated Lebanese government documents reference the U.S. charges against Hassoun. Several memos include Lebanese officials discussing whether to allow extradition to the U.S., and eventually a Lebanese justice ministry document from 2006 states there is "no extradition approval." □

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# Evacuations in effect in California fire that burned homes

By MICHELLE RINDELS

Associated Press

CROWLEY LAKE, Calif. (AP)

-- Ira Hanson milled around an evacuation center near tiny Swall Meadows on Sunday afternoon, not quite sure what to do after learning that the dream home he and his late wife had built 30 years earlier was damaged in a wildfire that consumed 40 homes and buildings.

Sheriff's deputies had banged on the door and urged him to get out less than 48 hours earlier, and he'd fled the house with little more than his medications and a pillow. Officials later told him that fire crews had to knock down one of the home's walls in an effort to save another house next door, but he had yet to see the damage.

"It's unbelievable," said Hanson, 79. "It's like having a nightmare and you're going to wake up any minute and it won't be true."

Fire crews increased containment of the wind-driven wildfire, but they said Sunday that they still didn't know when residents evacuated from Swall Meadows and nearby Paradise would be able to return home.

Utility workers were busy tending to the charred power poles along the roads in the two towns, and forestry crews sawed at fallen trees that blocked a main thoroughfare. Nearby, two gutted, gray trucks rested on a driveway that led to a pile of rubble. The fallen power poles and smoldering hot spots near propane tanks created hazards for the roughly 250 residents who have been evacuated, said California Department of Forestry

and Fire Protection Capt. Liz Brown. Crews were assessing trees in the two communities on Sunday to ensure they wouldn't come down.

"We would love to shoot for today, but I don't know," Brown said of the prospect of lifting evacuation orders. "Once it's open, it's open. We don't have the resources to escort people in and escort them out."

The fire started Friday afternoon near a highway on the border of Inyo and Mono counties. It blew up when 50 to 75 mph winds whipped through wooded areas near the two communities for about three hours, turning the flames into a "freight train," Brown said.

Swall Meadows was hit hard by the blaze - 39 homes were destroyed there while one burned in the community of Paradise, Brown said.

Firefighters made progress after rain moved in, and they have since contained 65 percent of the 11-square-mile blaze.

But Brown said the rain hasn't been enough to completely put out the fire. A three-year drought across California has created extremely dry timber brush that fueled the flames and pushed them all the way up the Sierra slopes to the snow line around 8,000 feet, she said.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

Meanwhile, officials running the evacuation center in Crowley Lake said they received an outpouring of support. A white board was filled with names and phone numbers of people who had volunteered their homes for the displaced.

So many had volunteered that nobody stayed in the



This image provided by Jim Stimson shows the Round fire burning at Wheeler Crest near Bishop Calif. Friday Feb. 6, 2015.

Associated Press

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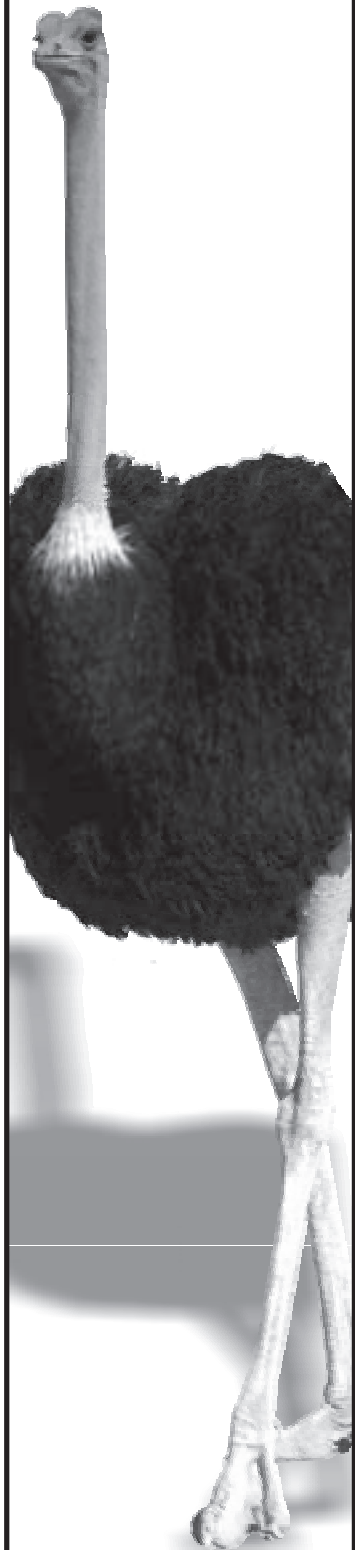
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## Police: 5 dead, including gunman, in Ga. shooting



Police stand in the doorway of a home while investigating the shooting scene where authorities say five people are dead, including the gunman, in Douglasville, Ga. on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015.

Associated Press

**RAY HENRY**  
**Associated Press**  
**DOUGLASVILLE, Georgia**  
**(AP)** — A quiet, suburban neighborhood outside Atlanta was left reeling after a man shot six people — killing four of them, including his ex-wife and several children — before ending the rampage by fatally turning the gun on himself, police said.  
 The shooting happened Saturday around 3 p.m. in a subdivision about 20 miles (32 kilometers) west of Atlanta, Douglas County Sheriff's Lt. Glenn Daniel said.

Horrified neighbors called the police emergency dispatcher and then tried to help the severely wounded victims as best they could before rescuers arrived.  
 The gunman was identified as Cedric G. Prather, 33, who died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office said Sunday.  
 The sheriff's office also identified the adults killed as Latoya A. Andrews, Prather's ex-wife; and Joseph Terry Brown. Both were 33 years old. A 7-year-old child died at the scene, and a 9-year-old was taken

to a hospital but also died, the sheriff's office said in a statement.  
 Two other children, an 8-year-old and a 15-year-old, were in critical but stable condition at a hospital, the statement said.  
 Authorities haven't identified any of the children who were shot.  
 Horrified neighbors called the police emergency dispatcher and then tried to help the severely injured victims as best they could before rescuers arrived.  
 A news conference is planned for Monday in Douglasville, where authorities plan to share more details of how the shooting transpired. Officials hoped to share something about the motive during the news conference, Lt. Glenn Daniel told The Associated Press.

Teresa Carter, 59, said she heard the gunfire from inside her home but did not see what happened. Carter said she often saw the children playing in the driveway and around the neighborhood. They enjoyed petting her dog.  
 "I heard shots, and I heard the girl scream," Carter said. "And then I heard four more shots."  
 Another neighbor, Angela Ansah, struggled to explain to her own children what happened to their slain friends a few houses down. Ansah said some of the children targeted Saturday often came over to her house to play with her own children.  
 "These are children I see every day, every blessed day," Ansah said. □

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## Israeli leader faces pressure to cancel U.S. speech

JOSEF FEDERMAN

Associated Press

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — A national leader's appearance before the U.S. Congress is usually a source of pride and unity. But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's planned trip to Washington — opposed by the White House and many Democrats — has Israel in uproar. The Israeli leader faces growing calls to cancel the visit as rivals accuse him of risking Israel's relations with the United States in hopes of winning extra votes in next month's Israeli parliamentary election. But Netanyahu has shown no signs of backing down, saying Sunday he would "do everything" to prevent U.S.-led international negotiators from reaching a "bad and dangerous agreement" with Iran over its nuclear program.

The U.S. is Israel's closest and most important ally. While ties remain strong between the nations, relations between Netanyahu and President Barack Obama are another matter. The two have long had strained personal relations and differ on many policy issues, with Netanyahu favoring a more confrontational approach to his foes over Obama's inclination toward diplomacy and compromise.

The differences are especially glaring when it comes to the Iranian nuclear issue. Netanyahu has identified a nuclear-armed Iran as the single greatest threat to his country and says its nuclear program must be dismantled. Israeli pressure, fea-

turing barely veiled threats to attack Iran if necessary, is credited by many here as having focused world attention on the issue and spurred economic sanctions against Iran.

Obama has vowed to prevent Iran from developing a bomb but has signaled he's willing to tolerate certain activities, such as uranium enrichment, a technology that Israel fears could quickly be diverted for weapons use. The U.S. and five global partners hope to reach a preliminary deal with Iran by March.

Cabinet Minister Yisrael Katz, a member of Netanyahu's Likud Party, acknowledged differences between Netanyahu and Obama over Iran. "Netanyahu feels that he has been fighting for years and now we are nearing a critical moment," Katz told Channel 2 TV.

Fearful that Obama is about to reach a "bad deal," Netanyahu jumped at the opportunity to address a joint session of Congress on March 3, two weeks before Israel's general election. The invitation was issued by the Republican speaker of the House of Representatives, John Boehner, and engineered by Netanyahu's ambassador to Washington, Ron Dermer, a former Republican operative.

The decision has triggered an outpouring of anger in both countries.

The White House views the planned visit as a breach of protocol, because it was not coordinated well ahead of time with the U.S. administration, which

learned about it just before it was made public. The White House also cited the close proximity of the election as the reason Obama wouldn't meet Netanyahu, saying the president wanted to avoid the appearance of taking sides.

U.S. officials also fear that the speech could upset the delicate talks with Iran. Several Democrats have said they would skip the speech, while others, including House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, have suggested that Netanyahu should postpone it. □



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends the weekly cabinet meeting in his Jerusalem office, Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015. Associated Press





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## Rome officials mull 'red light' prostitution zone

**FRANCES D'EMILIO**  
**Associated Press**

**ROME (AP)** — Rome's mayor and officials are considering a "red light" district to shield prostitutes from exploitation and families from embarrassment.

Prostitution is legal in Italy, and its practitioners are a common sight along several streets in Rome and many other Italian cities. City officials in the EUR neighborhood, filled with ministries, office high-rises and residential buildings, want to designate certain streets for prostitutes, starting experimentally in April.

Mayor Ignazio Marino told state TV RAINews24 Sunday the aim is to "find a balance" by pinpointing places, such as parks frequented by children and families, where prostitution won't be allowed, and by designating some

streets where it will.

Exploitation of prostitution is illegal, as is paying minors for sex.

EUR official Andrea Santoro says designated streets will help ensure prostitutes aren't put there by traffickers. Many women leave homes in Africa and Eastern Europe for Italy after promises of work like waitressing, but instead are forced into prostitution by trafficking rackets. Some neighborhood groups like the proposal. Paolo Lampariello, from one such group, said there are so many prostitutes on EUR's streets that "women can't enter their homes without being mistaken for prostitutes."

The newspaper Avvenire, of the Italian bishops' conference, scathingly described the designated-streets-for-prostitutes plan as "a hypocritical (and perhaps ideologi-



In this Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009 file photo, cars speed along the EUR district, with the Palazzo della Civiltà Italiana (Palace of the Italian Civilisation) in background, in Rome. Associated Press

cal) operation for urban 'decorum.'"

The city would provide psychological support and health care to prostitutes on the designated streets. Clients of prosti-

tutes working on non-designated streets would risk fines of 500 euros (about \$550) under the plan.

Pope Francis decried the "shameful plague" of human trafficking and

urged prayer and reflection about the problem.

Marino's political roots are in a centrist faction of the Italian government's main coalition party, the Democrats. □

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# Ukraine president pushes for fast cease-fire

GEIR MOULSON  
Associated Press

**MUNICH (AP)** — Ukraine's president pushed for both a quick cease-fire in his country's troubled east and defensive weapons from the West, as mediators sought momentum Saturday for a deal to stem the fighting at Europe's edge.

Petro Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin are to confer with the leaders of Germany and France by phone Sunday in an effort to overcome months of setbacks and suspicion and breathe new life into a much-violated September peace plan. But even those who had scheduled the call were cautious about its prospects.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel — who along with French President Francois Hollande traveled to Kiev on Thursday and Moscow on Friday — acknowledged disillusionment over the failure of previous agreements to stick and said “there are no theoretical guarantees” that a new one would either.

Western anxiety over the conflict is growing and sanctions are taking a toll on Russia's economy. More than 5,300 people have been killed since fighting began in April, according to a U.N. tally, and the bloodshed has markedly increased over the past two weeks.

“I do not believe there will be a final solution on this situation. Putin is still not weak enough to accept that, and the West is not strong enough to insist on its terms,” said Igor Sutyagin, an analyst with the Royal United Services Institute in Britain.

The resurgent fighting has prompted the U.S. to con-

sider giving lethal weapons to Ukraine, an option opposed by European nations which fear the move would merely exacerbate the situation.

“I cannot imagine any situation in which improved equipment for the Ukrainian army leads to President Putin being so impressed that he believes he will lose militarily,” Merkel said at the Munich Security Conference. “I have to put it that bluntly.”

tions. In the longer game, Russia has pushed for so-called “federalization” of Ukraine that would give broad powers to its provinces and allow them to deal directly with Moscow. Russia also wants to keep Ukraine out of NATO. Although Ukraine dropped its nonalignment policy last year, the Western alliance would be unlikely to accept Ukraine anytime soon because of its unstable politics and endemic cor-

the battle lines have since changed, and the government in Kiev has offered a measure of autonomy to the separatists.

While Germany and France are facilitating talks, “the important decisions must be made in Moscow and Kiev,” German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said.

Poroshenko told the Munich conference that Ukraine stands ready for a “comprehensive and im-

ed the Ukrainian side could be flexible on certain issues. He said he was open to discussing the size and contours of a proposed buffer zone separating the combatants, and was prepared to put the question of federalization to a referendum.

Merkel said it is uncertain whether the talks will succeed, “but it is, from my point of view and that of the French president, in any case worth making this attempt.”

Biden agreed that an attempt was worthwhile but said Russia must be judged by its actions, “not by the paper they signed.”

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also said he hoped for results.

As soon as Kiev and eastern Ukrainian separatists agree on practical details of implementing the Minsk deal, “I am sure that Russia will be among those parties that will guarantee the implementation of this agreement,” Lavrov told the conference. “But you can only guarantee what has already been achieved.”

The United States and other Western countries contend Russia has supplied troops and equipment to the separatists in eastern Ukraine who have been fighting Ukrainian government forces since April. Russia denies the claims. Lavrov also denounced “growing appeals in the West to ... pump Ukraine full with lethal weapons and to involve it in NATO.” He said that “this position will only exacerbate the tragedy of Ukraine.”

Poroshenko said talk of lethal weapons had been overdone and pointed to interest in equipment such as radar and jamming stations. □



**Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko holds Russian passports claiming they are proof of the presence of Russian troops in Ukraine as he addresses the 51. Security Conference in Munich, Germany, Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015.**

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, who also attended the Munich conference, stopped short of explicitly addressing possible arms deliveries. “We will continue to provide Ukraine with security assistance not to encourage war, but to allow Ukraine to defend itself,” he said.

Russia's most immediate goal is likely the lifting of some of the Western sanctions which, in concert with plunging oil prices, have driven the Russian economy into a parlous state — or at least to fend off the imposition of further sanc-

ruption.

France's president said a new peace deal could feature a broad demilitarized zone and greater autonomy for Ukraine's separatist eastern region. “These people have gone to war,” Francois Hollande said. “It will be difficult to make them share a common life.”

The aim is to draw up a possible joint document on implementing the September peace plan concluded in Minsk, Belarus. That widely disregarded agreement also featured a demilitarized zone, though

mediate cease-fire” and Russia should be too.

He indicated he wanted no peacekeepers in eastern Ukraine, saying they wouldn't be needed if foreign fighters withdrew and the Ukraine-Russia border was sealed. Then, he said, there would be “peace and stability in Ukraine ... within a couple of weeks.” “There is no temporary solution — this conflict must be resolved, not frozen,” he said, alluding to long-time conflicts involving break-away regions in Georgia and Moldova.

Later, Poroshenko suggest-



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## Mexico judge orders release of cartel 'Queen of the Pacific'

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — A Mexican federal judge threw out a five-year, money-laundering sentence for Sandra Avila Beltran, ordering the immediate release of the "Queen of the Pacific" for her alleged role as a liaison between Mexican and Colombian drug cartels.

A statement issued Saturday by the Attorney General's Office said the judge ruled that Avila already had been tried for the same crime in Mexico and the United States.

The ruling brings to an end a saga that began in 2007, when Avila was arrested while sipping coffee in a Mexico City diner.

Her case is widely known in Mexico because Avila is the niece of Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo, "the godfather" of Mexican drug smuggling who is serving a 40-year sentence for trafficking and the murder of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique Camarena in 1985.

Prosecutors alleged Avila spent more than a decade working her way to the top of Mexico's drug trade. They said her romance with Colombian Juan Diego Espinoza Ramirez

brought together Mexico's powerful Sinaloa cartel with Colombia's Norte del Valle cartel. Avila was tried in connection with the seizure of more than nine tons of U.S.-bound cocaine on a vessel in Mexico's western port of Manzanillo and acquitted in December 2010. A Mexican appeals court upheld the verdict in 2011. But she remained jailed while Mexican courts decided on a U.S. extradition request, which judges granted in 2012. Avila also faced charges stemming from several seizures in Chicago in 2001 that amounted to 100 kilograms of cocaine.

A 2004 indictment in the Southern District of Florida did not specify Beltran's role in the drug-dealing case. In a plea deal in Miami in 2013, she pleaded guilty to a lesser count of being an accessory after the fact in an organization that included Espinoza Ramirez, who pleaded guilty in 2009 to cocaine trafficking charges. She was sentenced to time served and returned to Mexico, where she was sentenced on the money-laundering conviction last year. □



In this Aug. 20, 2013, file photo, provided by Mexico's Interior Department shows Sandra Avila Beltran in handcuffs as she is escorted by federal authorities upon arrival to Benito Juarez airport in Mexico City. Associated Press

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## Chilean mountaineers find plane missing for half century

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** — Chilean mountaineers say they have found the wreckage of a plane that crashed in the Andes 54 years ago, killing 24 people, including eight members of a professional soccer team.

The group said they came across the wreckage at an altitude of about 10,500 feet (3,200 meters) about 215 miles (360 kilometers) south of Santiago, the capital. Expedition member Leonardo Albornoz told Chile's Channel 7 they're keeping the exact site secret to prevent looting.

The disappearance of the Douglas DC-3 carrying members of the top-division Chilean team Green Cross on April 3, 1961 was one of the great unsolved mysteries in the South American country and at the time stunned the sporting world.

The club had played an away match in Osorno in

the Copa de Chile and was returning to Santiago. The team and staff were spread over two flights. One of the planes reached the Chilean capital and the other apparently vanished.

Rescuers spent fruitless weeks searching for the missing plane and symbolic funerals for the missing players drew huge crowds in Chile.

"It was a very poignant moment and we felt all kinds of sensations. One could feel the energy of the place and breathe the pain," Albornoz said of apparent discovering the wreckage.

The mountaineers said they could see a good part of the fuselage without needing to dig it out and found scattered debris and bones. The location of the wreckage was not where official publications indicated it should be. Green Cross played in Chile's first division until it was dissolved in 1965. □





## Millions of lights illuminate Oranjestad's Lighting Parade!



**ORANJESTAD** – The stars at night were big and bright deep in the heart of Oranjestad, as Carnival's Annual Lighting Parade passed through town all night Saturday night! Thousands of revelers came out for the

radiant event, which is the 3rd biggest parade of Aruba's annual Carnival celebrations before the Grand Parades of Oranjestad and San Nicolas, both slated for this coming weekend! The Lighting Parade is one of



the most iconic parades of Aruba's Carnival, both originally introduced to the annual festivities by the Aruba Tivoli Club. It was a wondrous sight to see as downtown Oranjestad and the hearts of spectators and revelers alike were illuminated by the spirit of the event – and of course the millions of lights, exotic costumes and amazing musical arrangements played a big part too! □







## San Nicolas Children's Parade a colorful occasion for all ages!

**SAN NICOLAS** - Children big and small, with their families, friends, balloons and feathers in tow came out in droves on Sunday for another fabulous Grand Children's Parade in San Nicolas – one of the many in a procession of processions that make up what are Aruba's annual Carnival festivities. The colorful and exciting parade began at Carnaval Village in San Nicolas. The excited young people



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who made up the Grand Children's Parade are largely those of the families who actively participate in most of the major Carnival activities and events. Both

participants and spectators alike had a fun-tastic time dancing and enjoying the magic of the San Nicolas Children's Grand Parade! □

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## Sidebar changes Aruba's restaurant scene with its flavorful gourmet burgers

ORANJESTAD - Take a burger of one hundred percent prime Angus beef, add to that the freshest possible extras and tastiest sauces and voila: here is your gourmet burger. Sidebar, a newly opened, great restaurant in the Renaissance Marketplace in downtown Oranjestad, knows how to tease your taste buds with the best burgers imaginable.

*"After two meals and one take out experience, I'm ready to COMMIT. This hip, casual place manages to pull off a great contribution to the latest fad....burgers."*

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Sidebar's signature burgers have been named The Sidebar, The Afterburner, The Goliath, The Texan, The Chaser, The Primal and The Italian Job and we are sure that everyone will be able to find a burger that calls out to them. The burgers come with brie cheese, prosciutto, Cheddar cheese, zucchini, sliced steak, Bourbon bbq sauce, dripping gravy and much more, depending on your order. The best thing is that these gourmet beauties cost less than \$ 15.--, so lunch or an evening out won't break the bank.

Feel love for Sidebar's burgers; they are bursting with taste— try them all and find your personal favorite. Come on down to Sidebar and rock your Wildest West with a fabulously tasty burger that packs a punch with its layers of flavor. And if you are not in a burger mood, then Sidebar has a wonderfully varied menu of all kinds of other options, ranging from vegetarian mushrooms and spinach to a zucchini cutlet to lovely salads, homemade soups, pastas and fish dishes.

Wash your lunch or dinner down with a premium, aged Bourbon or try the ice-cold beers on tap to slake your thirst. You can choose between Heineken, Balashi, Chill, Stella Artois, Miller Light or Presidente. Come inside, at the bar or sit outside on the terrace; at Sidebar there will always be a place for you.



Picture: "THE TEXAN" GOURMET BURGER

## Grand Opening of Sidebar Bistro a Fabulous Affair!



- Located in the Renaissance Market place, across from the Ocean Suites in downtown Oranjestad.

ORANJESTAD - Sidebar is unique in a trendy, sassy and sexy way, it is ready to welcome young and old! Sidebar is the place that serves the best burgers on the island and even has vegetarian food. Dutch owner Niels Stooter, his manager Kim d'Hont and their team are waiting to

serve you the diner of your dreams!

Common ground and denominating factor of the guests includes the enjoyment of life, in particular the good things, such as great bistro food, wonderful drinks and a relaxed, happy atmosphere.

Side Bar is the name of a stylish, hip restaurant on the side of the Renaissance Marketplace; just hop inside, sit at the bar or



on the amazing porch and enjoy!

we don't have yet on the island.

The grand opening was a busy event where the friendly staff welcomed all invited guests with champagne and a smile.

One of the guests was overheard remarking: "I was wondering how one could find niche for a new restaurant on Aruba, but I believe Niels has found it with Sidebar. The combination gourmet burger and aged Bourbons is one that

This bistro is going to soar." Others agreed and they added that the food is absolutely terrific; they knew from experience, because Sidebar has already been open for two weeks, ironing out any glitches before its Grand Opening. Live music was provided by "Joyride" and till late at night the crowd danced away on popular songs played by the band. □





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**ORANJESTAD** - We would like to introduce Aramis to you, one of the donkeys that has found a home at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary. We have never seen a donkey that was so easily accepted by the herd as Aramis. Normally it takes quite a while before the herd accepts a newcomer, but with Aramis and his friend Ninja it went without a hitch. We only separated them for one night, but one noticed that the herd was not opposed to this gorgeous, dark grey donkey. So put into the herd, and loving every moment at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary. Aramis can look forward to staying a long, long time with us, as he is just four years old. This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical

history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary. The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream.



The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep. With

this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can

also register via the website [www.arubandonkey.org](http://www.arubandonkey.org) or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctuary Aruba please. □





In an Oct. 9, 1997 file photo, North Carolina basketball coach Dean Smith smiles during a news conference in Chapel Hill, N.C., where he announced his retirement.

Associated Press

## North Carolina coaching great Dean Smith dies

AARON BEARD  
AP Basketball Writer

Dean Smith, the coaching innovator who won two national championships at North Carolina, an Olympic gold medal in 1976 and induction into basketball's Hall of Fame more than a decade before he left the bench, has died. He was 83.

The retired coach died "peacefully" at his North Carolina home Saturday night, the school said in a statement Sunday from Smith's family. He was with his wife and five children. Smith had health issues in recent years, with the family saying in 2010 he had a condition that was causing him to lose memory. He had kept a lower profile during that time. His wife, Linnea, accepted the Presidential Medal of Freedom on his behalf from President Barack Obama in November 2013.

Roy Williams, the current North Carolina coach who spent 10 years as Smith's assistant, said Smith "was the greatest there ever was on the court but far, far better off the court with people."

Continued on Next Page



## Islanders hang on to beat Sabres 3-2

Page 20

New York Islanders defenseman Johnny Boychuk (55) clears the puck away from Buffalo Sabres center Zemgus Girgensons (28), of Latvia, during the first period of an NHL hockey game Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015, in Buffalo, N.Y. The Islanders won 3-2.

Associated Press





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## Dean Smith

*Continued from Previous Page*

"I'd like to say on behalf of all our players and coaches, past and present, that Dean Smith was the perfect picture of what a college basketball coach should have been," Williams said in a statement. "We love him and we will miss him."

In a career that spanned more than 40 years, Smith coached the likes of Michael Jordan and James Worthy and influenced the game and how it is played in ways that are unrivaled.

His "Four Corners" time-melting offense led to the creation of the shot clock to counter it. He was the first coach at North Carolina, and among the first in the segregated South, to offer a scholarship to a black athlete. The now-common "point to the passer," in which a scorer acknowledges a teammate's assist, started in Chapel Hill and became a hallmark of Smith's always



**In this Dec. 8, 2006 file photo, former North Carolina basketball coach Dean Smith answers questions during a press conference in Chapel Hill, N.C.**  
**Associated Press**

humble "Carolina Way." He was a direct coaching descendent of basketball's father, James Naismith, playing and later coaching at Kansas for the inventor of the game's most famous student, Jayhawks coach Phog Allen. Smith would pass lessons learned in Kansas along at North Carolina, adding more than a few of his own. He tutored perhaps the game's greatest player, Jordan, who burst onto the national stage as a freshman on Smith's 1982

national title team, and two of basketball's most successful coaches, fellow Hall of Famers Larry Brown and Williams.

The numerical record of his accomplishments is staggering. His only losing season came in his first, and he left the game having surpassed Kentucky's Adolph Rupp as the winningest men's basketball coach in Division I history. He led the Tar Heels to 13 Atlantic Coast Conference tournament championships, appearances in

11 Final Fours, five national title games, and NCAA championships in 1982 and 1993. North Carolina won at least 20 games in each of his final 27 seasons, and made 23 consecutive appearances in the NCAA tournament.

Along the way, more than 95 percent of Smith's lettermen graduated from one of the nation's premier public universities.

His devotion to a humble, team-first philosophy — the famed "Carolina Way" — bred a fierce loyalty among the Tar Heels. Williams was an enormous success at Kansas, able to resist returning to his alma mater in 2000. He could not do so three years later when Smith called, and Williams tearfully left the Jayhawks behind after 15 seasons and returned to Chapel Hill.

When North Carolina held a reunion for school's 1957 and 1982 championship teams in 2007, Smith drew the largest applause from the crowd, even as he stood alongside Jordan and fellow Tar Heel greats

Worthy and Phil Ford. During the ceremony, Jordan put his arm around Smith and kissed him on the head.

Smith remained in the background after his retirement, keeping an office at the Dean E. Smith Center — the arena that opened while he was still coaching in 1986. He often consulted North Carolina players as they considered whether to leave school early for the NBA, and would occasionally watch Williams direct practice and take notes. He was hesitant to give them to his former assistant, fearful of suggesting something that might not work.

Though he never ran for office, Smith also helped shape political and social views in North Carolina as coach of the state's beloved Tar Heels. At the urging of his pastor, he recruited blacks to his team, and in 1967 made Charlie Scott the first black scholarship athlete at North Carolina and one of the first in the South. □



## Michael Bradley, Clint Dempsey lead U.S. men past Panama, 2-0

GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

CARSON, Calif. (AP) —

When Michael Bradley curled a corner kick over the Panama defense and into the net for a spectacular goal, Clint Dempsey was unsure exactly how it happened.

"You'd have to ask him whether he was aiming for that, because we didn't know," Dempsey said, laughing.

With big goals from both veterans and a clean sheet, the United States provided ample reason for more excitement heading into an eventful year.

Bradley scored in the 27th minute, Dempsey added his 40th career goal later in the first half, and the Americans snapped a five-game winless skid with a 2-0 victory over Panama on Sunday. The Americans wrapped up a monthlong training camp with their best result in 10 games since winning their opener at last year's World Cup. The U.S. had won just once since beating Ghana in Brazil, but coach Jurgen Klinsmann's squad looked considerably sharper in its home opener for a big year that includes the Gold Cup and World Cup qualifying. Bradley started it with a

spectacular Olimpico goal, putting his corner kick directly into the far top corner of Jaime Penedo's net with an exceptional bend. Jozy Altidore could have headed it in if needed, but instead watched it settle for Bradley's 13th career goal. "Coming out of a little bit of a difficult period, it was an important game for us," Bradley said. "Maybe this isn't the most important game we'll play this year, but while it wasn't perfect, we were able to do a lot of good things. It sets the groundwork for the rest of the year."

As for his goal, Bradley assured everybody that's exactly what he meant to do. "Well, we work on a lot of different setpieces," Bradley said.

Goalkeeper Sean Johnson replaced Nick Rimando for the second half, finishing up the Americans' first shut-out since their last victory, over the Czech Republic last September.

The Americans' most impressive player was hometown star Gyasi Zardes, the LA Galaxy forward. He punctuated his first career U.S. start in the 37th minute by winning the ball in midfield and making a beautiful pass to Dempsey, who

sidestepped Penedo and finished.

Klinsmann praised Zardes and other youngsters who stepped up during the camp.

"He is trying to impress, and he's hungry," Klinsmann said about Zardes. "He showed certain tools he has. The assist to Clint was just perfect, perfect timing. It shows he has something special."

Dempsey, the Seattle Sounders star, trails only Landon Donovan as the second-leading goal-scorer in U.S. history.

The Americans improved on last month's 3-2 loss in Chile while showing none of the second-half struggles that have prompted Klinsmann to question their fitness. The U.S. had yielded nine goals in the second halves of its last six games, but held Panama to a handful of good chances all day at StubHub Center south of downtown Los Angeles.

Panama had little offensive luck against the U.S. in their first meeting since the Americans scored two stoppage-time goals to knock the Panamanians out of World Cup contention in heartbreaking fashion in October 2013. Panama has



United States' Jermaine Jones heads the ball during the second half of a friendly soccer match against Panama, Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015, in Carson, Calif.

Associated Press

beaten the Americans just once in 15 meetings, losing six straight.

After experimenting with a three-man back line in Chile, Klinsmann started in a 4-2-3-1 formation. Southern California natives Zardes and Miguel Ibarra got their first career starts, and Brek Shea moved back to defense to compensate for the absence of Steve Birnbaum, who has a minor knee injury.

Defenders Perry Kitchen and Matt Hedges made their U.S. debuts in the second half, coming on for Max Diskerud and DeAndre Yedlin. Ten players have made their U.S. debuts in the seven games since the

World Cup.

A few fans unhappy with Klinsmann made their feelings known behind the south goal with banners reading "JK OUT" and "Red Card the Coach."

Yet after a tentative start, Klinsmann's team showed off decent chemistry in the first half, capped by two beautiful goals. The second half was slower, but the American defense was largely impenetrable.

Before the match, Panama honored Penedo for his 100th appearance. The LA Galaxy netminder got a big ovation from his home fans. The U.S. men return in late March with games in Denmark and Switzerland. □

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## NHL Capsules

# Islanders hang on for 3-2 win over Sabres

**The Associated Press**

**BUFFALO, New York (AP)** — Mikhail Grabovski's snap shot from the slot midway through the second period stood up as the winner for the New York Islanders, who hung on for a 3-2 victory over the Buffalo Sabres on Sunday night.

Rookie Anders Lee and Colin McDonald also scored for the Islanders, who nearly squandered a 3-0 lead. Travis Hamonic had two assists in helping New York (34-18-1) earn its second win in six games and vault into first place in the Metropolitan Division.

Marcus Foligno had a goal and assist in his first game after missing 19 with a hand injury. Drew Stafford

also scored for Buffalo (16-35-3) in a game the Sabres managed just eight shots through two periods, and were outshot 31-10 overall.

**LIGHTNING 5, DUCKS 3**

**TAMPA, Florida (AP)** — Brian Boyle scored the first of his two goals during Tampa Bay's three-goal first period as the Lightning beat Anaheim.

Valtteri Filppula, Nikita Kucherov and Ryan Callahan also scored for the Atlantic Division-leading Lightning, who had a franchise-record 10-game home winning streak end Saturday.

Ducks center Ryan Getzlaf, who returned after missing two games due to a lower-body injury, scored his

200th NHL goal and added an assist. Anaheim fell a point behind Nashville, a 3-2 shootout winner over Florida, for the NHL's best record.

Anaheim goalie Frederik Andersen left midway through the third period when the net was dislodged from behind and landed on his back.

**STARS 3, RANGERS 2, OT.**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Ales Hemsky scored 1:02 into overtime as the Dallas Stars overcame a late tying goal by Chris Kreider to snap a three-game skid with a win over the New York Rangers. Kreider tied it with his 12th of the season, on the power play at 18:40 of the third. Jason Spezza and Erik Cole



New York Islanders' Frans Nielsen (51), John Tavares (91), and Anders Lee (27) celebrate a goal by Lee during the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Buffalo Sabres, Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015, in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Associated Press**

each scored second-period goals for Dallas. Spezza opened the scoring on a 5-on-3 power-play for the Stars at 2:53 of the second period with his 10th goal of the season. Tyler Seguin and John Klingberg assisted.

Carl Hagelin scored for New York at 15:27 of the second.

**FLYERS 3 CAPITALS 1 WASHINGTON (AP)**

Wayne Simmonds scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period as the Flyers beat the Capitals despite losing starting goalie Steve Mason to an injury. Jakub Voracek added an empty-netter for his 18th of the season, and Mark Streit also scored for the Flyers,

who have won five of six. Mason, who stopped all eight shots he faced, left the ice at 11:18 of the second period and had to be helped to the locker room. The team later announced he had a lower-body injury. Alex Ovechkin pulled into a tie for the league lead with his 33rd goal for the Capitals.

**PREDATORS 3, PANTHERS 2, SO**

**SUNRISE, Florida (AP)** — Filip Forsberg tied it on a power play with 4:43 left in regulation and scored the shootout winner in the Predators' victory over the Panthers. Forsberg poked the puck past Roberto Luongo in the fifth round of the shootout. □

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# Clippers star Blake Griffin out indefinitely with staph infection

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Clippers All-Star forward Blake Griffin needs surgery to remove a staph infection in his right elbow, and coach Doc Rivers said Sunday it "could be awhile" before he returns. The operation is set for Monday in Los Angeles, and Griffin will be re-evaluated after the All-Star break. Rivers said before Sunday's game against the Thunder that he doesn't know when

Griffin will return. Spencer Hawes started in Griffin's place. Griffin is averaging 22.5 points, 7.5 rebounds and 5.1 assists while shooting 50.1 percent. He was third in the league's MVP balloting last year. The NBA has yet to announce who will replace Griffin in the starting lineup and on the roster for next Sunday's All-Star game in New York.

Griffin missed what would have been his first NBA season because of a knee injury after the Clippers drafted him with the top pick in the 2009 draft. Since making his debut in 2010, he had sat out only four regular-season games. The Clippers came into Sunday in sixth place in the deep Western Conference at 33-18, six games ahead of ninth-place New Orleans.



Los Angeles Clippers' Blake Griffin scores over San Antonio Spurs' Tim Duncan (21) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015, in San Antonio.

Associated Press

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## Cuba beats Mexico 3-2 to win 1st Caribbean Series since 1960

**OCTAVIO BENITEZ**  
Associated Press

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**

— Cuba won its first Caribbean Series championship since 1960 with a 3-2 victory over Mexico on Sunday, highlighted by Yulieski Gourriel's eighth inning homer.

The victory marked a return for Cuba to its winning ways in the regional baseball series it used to dominate before Cuban stars were barred by its government in 1961 from playing professionally overseas. Cuba returned to the tournament last year but made a quick exit.

Cuba out-hit Mexico 11-4 on the way to the title, a day after dominating Venezuela 8-4 for a shot at the championship played in the U.S. Caribbean territory of Puerto Rico.

It was the first time that top Cuban players got a chance to compete on the U.S. island since Cuba and the United States moved to normalize relations.



Cuba players celebrate after defeating Mexico 3-2 in the Caribbean Series baseball championship title game in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015. Associated Press

Cuban starter Yosvani Torres was dominant for six innings, striking out five. Frederich Cepeda had a

two-out RBI single, scoring Gourriel, in the first to give Cuba the early lead.

They went up 2-0 in the second inning when Luis Yander singled in a run.

Mexico pulled within a run in the fifth after Joey Meneses led off the inning with

a double. He scored on a single by Walter Ibarra.

Cuba scored again in the eighth inning when Gourriel led off with a homer to left.

But Mexico, looking for its third consecutive title in the regional series, wasn't done yet. In the bottom of

the eighth, Eric Farris hit a two-out RBI single to right to make it 3-2 but Meneses flied out to right to end the inning. It's the eighth time Cuba has taken the title at the Caribbean Series, which it won seven times between 1949 and 1960. □

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# Cyber-attacks rising in Utah, likely due to NSA facility

By BRADY McCOMBS

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) --

Utah state officials have seen what they describe as a sharp uptick in attempts to hack into state computers in the last two years, and they think it related to the NSA data center south of Salt Lake City.

The increase began in early 2013 as international attention focused on the NSA's \$1.7 billion warehouse to store massive amounts of information gathered secretly from phone calls and emails.

"In the cyber world, that's a big deal," Utah Public Safety Commissioner Keith Squires told a state legislative committee this week.

While most of the attempts are likely innocuous, cyber experts say it is possible low-level hackers, "hactivists" unhappy with the NSA's tactics, and some foreign criminal groups might erroneously think the state systems are linked to the NSA.

"Maybe these hackers are thinking: 'If we can attack state systems, we can get info that NSA isn't releasing,'" said Richard Forno, director of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County's, graduate cybersecurity program. The state tracks the attempts with an automated system it purchased after a breach of health care information in 2012. The system detects, stops and counts the attempts to get into the computers, Squires said.

With that new equipment in place in January 2013, the state was seeing an average of 50,000 a day with spikes up to 20 mil-

lion, Squires told The Associated Press. In February 2013, the number rose to an average of 75 million attacks a day, with up to 500 million on some days. Attacks include direct attacks on websites, emails fishing for passwords, and something called "port scans," where people probe a computer looking for weak spots.

The NSA didn't immediately have any comment about the attacks.

Tim Junio, a cybersecurity researcher at Stanford University, said what officials refer to as "attacks" are likely just "noise from low-tech people rather than concerted efforts for meaningful foreign intelligence collection."

But both Forno and Junio agree the NSA data center could draw the attention of hackers who think they can target state-run utilities that power the center. Being able to disrupt an NSA operation in any way would bring international notoriety to a foreign state or criminal group, Junio said.

State officials acknowledge that part of the increase is driven by an overall rise in hacking across the country. Hackers' motivations vary, and it was impossible to determine what might be behind the activity in Utah. Some steal personal information, like customer lists, to commit identity theft. Some take control of email servers to steal messages, send unwanted advertising or disguise the origin of their communications. Some steal corporate or government secrets from email or cloud servers, or use unlocked file servers as digital "dead drops" for their hacking tools, pi-



In this June 6, 2013, file photo, the National Security Agency's Utah Data Center in Bluffdale, Utah, is viewed.

Associated Press

rated movies, stolen files and more.

For hackers seeking notoriety, the NSA would be a prized target because it

employs the world's best hackers and routinely gives advice about how to keep computers safe from online criminals.

-- Associated Press writer Ted Bridis contributed to this report from Washington, D.C. □

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## Bruce Jenner's Courage



**Nicholas Kristof**  
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News Service

When I was a growing up, yearning with my pals to be a track star, one of our heroes was Bruce Jenner. He won a gold medal at the 1976 Olympics in the decathlon, and he adorned our Wheaties boxes. We all wanted to be Bruce Jenner.

I haven't thought much about him in years. But Jenner is in the news again, widely reported to be preparing to come out as a transgender woman.

At first, there were snickers, but, lately, the tone has been respectful. And news reports say Jenner is planning to chronicle the transition in a program for E! television and in an interview with Diane Sawyer for ABC News. All this, and comments by family members, suggest that Jenner is willing to be a role model and help educate the world on transgender issues.

Radar Online quoted his mother, Esther Jenner, as confirming the news and saying she was prouder of him now than when he won his gold medal. His stepdaughter, Kim Kardashian, told "Entertainment Tonight" that it was Jenner's story to tell but added: "I think he'll share whenever the time is right."

Good for Jenner. All this is probably harder than the training for the Olympic decathlon - but more important, because transgender people face hate crimes and discrimination at an astonishing rate.

Remember Matthew Shepard, the 21-year-old gay university student in Wyoming who in 1998 was tied to a fence, badly beaten, and left to die? That was seen as the ultimate hate crime and now seems to belong to a different era.

Yet, just so far this year, at least three transgender people have been reported murdered in the United States. The Human Rights Campaign issued a report the other day listing 13 transgender women murdered in 2014: They were shot, strangled, burned and beaten.

"Violence is something that is disproportionately affecting transgender people - and for specific reasons," says Elizabeth Halloran of the Human Rights Campaign. "Inability to access employment, housing and safety-net services, as well as family rejection, all conspire to create a reality that

makes transgender people - especially transgender people of color, transgender women and transgender people living poverty - more vulnerable to violence." Vincent Paolo Villano of the National Center for Transgender Equality said that there has been progress in laws protecting transgender Americans but that public attitudes remain a problem. Sex and gender are such befuddling mysteries even for those of us who are in the mainstream that you'd think we'd be wary of being judgmental. Yet much of society clings to a view that gender is completely binary, when, in fact, there's overwhelming evidence of a continuum.

And considering the violence and discrimination that transgender people endure, no one would go through this except for the most profound of motivations: to be authentic to one's inner self.

A 2011 survey by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force found that 57 percent of transgender people interviewed reported significant family rejection. Partly because of widespread job discrimination, they were often impoverished, and almost one-fifth had been homeless. And 41 percent reported having attempted suicide.

"Gender needs to be taught about in schools," Leelah Alcorn, a transgender 17-year-old who had been sent to conversion therapy by her parents, wrote in a suicide note when she killed herself last year. "Fix society. Please."

Gays and lesbians began to gain civil rights when Americans realized that their brothers, cousins, daughters were gay. Numbers are elusive, but research at the University of California at Los Angeles suggests that while 3.5 percent of American adults identify as gay, only 0.3 percent are transgender.

Jay Brown, a transgender man who has written an excellent online guide to how the public can support those transitioning, notes that as 65 percent of Americans say they have a family member or close friend who is gay, compared with only 9 percent who have such a connection to someone who is transgender.

Yet there are signs of a real opening, with TV shows dealing with transgender issues, Vice President Joe Biden referring to transgender discrimination as "the civil rights issue of our time," and President Barack Obama mentioning transgender people in his State of the Union address last month.

That's the context in which Jenner is stepping forward. If the aim is to educate us, bravo!

Cynics might say that the television plans are more about self-promotion than leadership. All I know is that Jenner seems to be preparing for a bold public mission involving something intensely personal, in a way that should open minds and hearts. So, in my book, Bruce Jenner is now a gold medalist again. Come on, Wheaties. It's time to put Jenner back on the box! □



## Conflict and Ego



**David Brooks**  
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News Service

If you read the online versions of newspaper columns you can click over to the reader comments, which are often critical, vituperative and insulting. I've found that I can deal with these comments only by following the adage, "Love your enemy."

It's too psychologically damaging to read these comments as evaluations of my intelligence, morals or professional skill. But if I read them with the (possibly delusional) attitude that these are treasured friends bringing me lovely gifts of perspective, then my eye slides over the insults and I can usually learn something. The key is to get the question of my self-worth out of the way - which is actually possible unless the insulter is really creative.

It's not only newspaper columnists who face this kind of problem.

Everybody who is on the Internet is subject to insult, trolling, hating and cruelty. Most of these online assaults are dominance plays. They are attempts by the insulter to assert his or her own superior status through displays of gratuitous cruelty toward a target.

The natural but worst way to respond is to enter into the logic of this status contest.

If he puffs himself up, you puff yourself up. But if you do this you

put yourself and your own status at center stage. You enter a cycle of keyboard vengeance. You end up with a painfully distended ego, forever in danger, needing to assert itself, and sensitive to sleights.

Clearly, the best way to respond is to step out of the game. It's to get out of the status competition. Enmity is a nasty frame of mind. Pride is painful. The person who can quiet the self can see the world clearly, can learn the subject and master the situation. Historically, we reserve special admiration for those who can quiet the self even in the heat of conflict.

Abraham Lincoln was caught in the middle of a horrific civil war. It would have been natural for him to live with his instincts aflame - filled with indignation toward those who started the war, enmity toward those who killed his men and who would end up killing him.

But his second inaugural is a masterpiece of rising above the natural urge toward animosity and instead adopting an elevated stance.

The terror theater that the Islamic State group is perpetrating these days is certainly in a different category than Internet nastiness. But the beheadings, this monstrous act of human incineration, are also insults designed to generate a visceral response.

They are a different kind of play of dominance. They are attempts by insignificant men to get the world to recognize their power and status.

These Islamic State guys burn hostages alive because it wins praise from their colleagues, because it earns attention and because it wins the sort of perverse respect that accompanies fear. We often say that terrorism is an act of war, but that's wrong. Terrorism is an act of taunting. These murderous videos are attempts to make the rest of us feel powerless, at once undone by fear and addled by disgust.

The natural and worst way to respond is with the soul inflamed. If they execute one of our guys, we'll - as Jordan did - execute two of their guys. If they chest-thump, we'll chest-thump. If they kill, we'll kill.

This sort of strategy is just a recruiting tool for the Islamic State. It sucks us into their nihilistic status war: Their barbarism and our response.

The world is full of invisible young men yearning to feel significant, who'd love to shock the world and light folks on fire in an epic status contest with the reigning powers.

The best way to respond is to quiet our disgust and quiet our instincts. It is to step out of their game. It is to reassert the primacy of our game.

The world's mission in the Middle East is not to defeat the Islamic State, which is just a barbaric roadblock. It's to reassert the primacy of pluralism, freedom and democracy. It's to tamp down zeal and cultivate self-doubt. The world has to destroy the Islamic State with hard power, but only as a means to that higher moral end.

Many people have lost faith in that democratic mission, but without that mission we're just one more army in a contest of barbarism.

Our acts are nothing but volleys in a status war.

In this column, I've tried to describe the interplay of conflict and ego, in arenas that are trivial (the comments section) and in arenas that are monstrous (the war against the Islamic State). In all cases, conflict inflames the ego, distorts it and degrades it.

The people we admire break that chain.

They quiet the self and step outside the status war. They focus on the larger mission.

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## Even as U.S. job market picks up, unemployed face frustration

By **CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** -- The job market remains a frustrating place for America's 9 million unemployed - perhaps more so as hiring has accelerated along with job postings.

The pace of job growth over the past three months was the fastest in 17 years. The gains spanned nearly every industry, and some employers have finally had to dangle higher pay to attract or retain top talent. And yet millions of job seekers still can't find work. Some businesses remain slow to fill their openings, awaiting the ideal candidate. Many job seekers lack the skills employers require.

The plight of the unemployed also reflects an economic reality: Even in the best times, the number of job seekers is typically twice the number of job openings.

The January jobs report that the government issued Friday pointed to another factor, too: As hiring strengthens, more people typically start looking for jobs. As the number of job seekers grows, so does competition for work.

The number of openings has reached nearly 5 million, the most since 2001. Yet that's barely more than half the number of people the government counts as unemployed.

"There's always going to be a set of job vacancies, and there are always go-

ing to be a set of people transitioning from unemployment to work," said Tara Sinclair, an economics professor at George Washington University. "The transition isn't instantaneous."

For many, the transition can be maddeningly slow. Complaints abound about online job sites that seem to function more as black holes than as gateways to employment. Applicants can't get past online portals to explain gaps in their resumes. Multiple interviews and other steps - even for low-paying jobs - can prolong the process.

Carlie Kozlowich, 23, had three interviews last year with a marketing company for a job she was told would involve "travel" and "events." Only after accepting the job did she learn it involved selling goods at a booth in a Costco. Having amassed roughly \$50,000 in debt to earn a college degree, she felt she had to turn it down. "Three interviews just to say, 'Would you like to try a pierogi today?'" she said. Steven Davis, an economist at the University of Chicago, calculates that it took employers an average of 25.6 working days to fill a job in November, the latest period for which data are available. That nearly matched July's figure of 26, the longest in the 14 years that the government has gathered the data Davis uses.

An extended hiring period can in some ways be

a positive sign: It suggests that companies are having a harder time finding workers because the economy has strengthened. The number of unemployed peaked at 15.4 million in October 2009, just after the recession ended.

Still, the fact that it takes companies so long to fill vacancies, even with 9 million people unemployed, suggests that more discouraging factors may be at play. Some companies that are seeking high-skilled workers in fields like information technology and advanced manufacturing complain about a shortage of qualified candidates. Some recruiters and online job sites describe "skills mismatches."

Paul D'Arcy, senior vice president at the job listings website Indeed.com, says lower-skilled jobs generally receive a flood of resumes, while higher-skilled positions attract far fewer.

Jobs in management, computers and math and architecture and engineering far outnumber job seekers in those fields, according to Indeed's data.

That doesn't sit well with Bill Gahan, 51, who has sought work for nearly a year after moving to Salt Lake City. Gahan worked in manufacturing and logistics for 29 years, including as a vice president for logistics at a manufacturer of hardware and software for visually impaired people.

Told that some experts think many of the unemployed



**In this Friday, Feb. 6, 2015, photo, Carlie Kozlowich, who is currently unemployed, poses for a photo at her home in the North Hollywood district of Los Angeles.**

lack the right skills, Gahan says, "I want to have a conversation with whoever is saying that."

Increasingly, many economists agree with Gahan. Though skill shortages exist in some highly technical positions, if shortages of qualified workers were pervasive, employers would likely offer higher pay. Despite a sharp gain in January, average pay still hasn't risen much.

Many employers also remain highly selective, perhaps assuming there are still legions of unemployed to choose from. They may be right: There are 6.8 million part-time workers who would prefer full-time jobs - 50 percent more than in 2007, before the recession began.

The recession also left some companies reluctant to make permanent hires. They have turned instead to temporary and contract workers.

All that has left job seekers like Stephen Jones in a bind. A lawyer, Jones hasn't found work since

moving to Windermere, Florida, more than a year ago. Besides applying for positions as a lawyer, Jones has lowered his sights and sought legal assistant and paralegal jobs. Having sent out 200-300 resumes, he's heard back once or twice. "What do I do?" asked Jones, 32. "I'm overqualified for some jobs, and I'm underqualified for the jobs that I want to have."

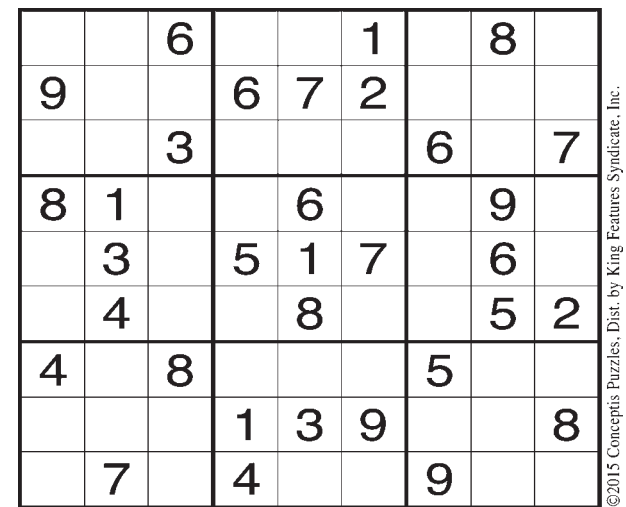
Many companies that want to hire don't see the hurry.

Explorys, a health care data provider in Cleveland, plans to add 80 people to its 142-person staff this year, mostly in data analysis. The company uses a database to help hospitals manage and anticipate patients' needs.

Cleveland is home to several major health care employers and research universities, so Explorys typically has "lots of good candidates" for jobs, says CEO Steve McHale, and tries to identify those who fit its culture and values. □

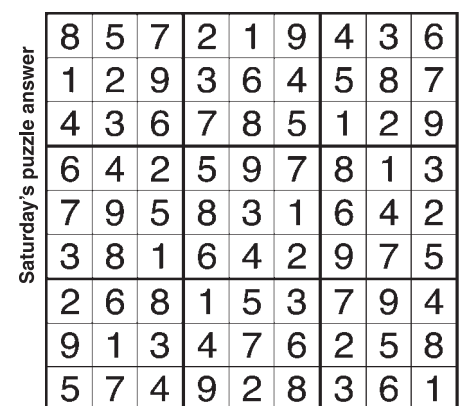


## Conceptis Sudoku

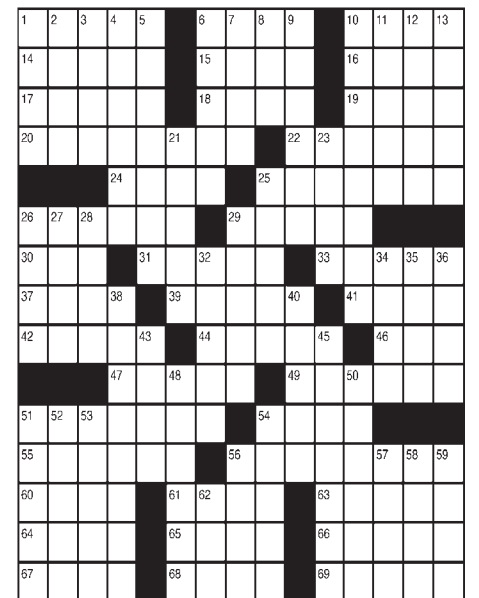


2/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.



1 Breathing  
organs  
6 Happy  
10 Church service  
14 "Carmen" or  
"Aida"  
15 Uncle Ben's \_\_\_\_  
16 Qualified  
17 \_\_\_\_ over;  
studied intently  
18 Sups  
19 Destroy  
20 Put at risk  
22 \_\_\_\_ out; got rid of  
gradually  
24 Tush  
25 Dallies  
26 Mean woman  
in a fairy tale  
29 \_\_\_\_ up; bungle  
30 John \_\_\_\_;  
unknown man  
31 Special U.S.  
Navy force  
33 Camera brand



2/9/15

K	E	N	O		A	T	T	H	E		F	L	O	P
I	C	E	D		T	R	E	A	D		I	O	W	A
S	H	E	D		H	E	A	D	S	T	R	O	N	G
S	O	D		L	E	E	S				R	I	N	S
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S	C	E	N	T	S			B	R	I	G	H	T	
C	O	S	T	S			S	T	O	A	T		A	R
A	L	S	O		S	L	A	N	G		F	L	E	A
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	S	Y	S	T	E	M				L	E	N	G	T
		T	O	M				A	O	R	T	A		
A	S	T	I	R			G	R	A	B		L	B	J
S	H	O	C	K		P	R	O	O	F		G	L	U
K	O	O	K		G	O	O	S	E			P	O	R
S	E	T	S		A	D	D	E	R		A	N	N	S

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38 Disease	52 Amphitheater
40 Reigns	53 Child's caretaker
43 Precipice	54 Married man
45 Aviator Amelia	56 Baby's cry
48 Builds	57 Leak out
50 Bricklayer's plaster	58 Dollar bills
51 Old Roman robes	59 State of clutter
	62 Decay

I BOUGHT A BEAUTIFUL COAT YESTERDAY, BUT AFTER I GOT IT HOME, I'M NOT SURE I LIKE IT

I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN

THAT HAPPENS TO ME ALL THE TIME

NO ROOM IN YOUR CLOSET EITHER?

I'M AMAZED I CAN STILL SHUT THE DOOR

2-9

AFTER OBEDIENCE SCHOOL I'M GOING TO WASHINGTON U. IN ST. LOUIS. IT'S THE HARVARD OF THE MIDWEST.

BUT I THOUGHT NORTHWESTERN WAS THE HARVARD OF THE MIDWEST

NO, IT'S UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO!

NO, IT'S MICHIGAN!

OKAY, OKAY, THEN HARVARD IS THE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST

WASH. U.

U OF CHICAGO

GO BLUE

GO BLUE

WASH. U.

2/9

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## U.S. gas prices jump 13 cents a gallon; could go higher

**CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)** -- The average price of a regular gallon of gas jumped 13 cents in the past two weeks to \$2.20, ending a sustained drop. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that a rebound in the price of crude oil caused the run-up at the pump.

However, the price is \$1.10 below the mark a year ago, on Feb. 7, 2014. San Francisco continued to have the highest-priced gas in the Lower 48 states at \$2.59 a gallon.

The low average was in Tucson, Arizona, at \$1.82. The average price in California is up 9 cents, to \$2.53.

Lundberg says pump prices could climb as much as a dime in the near future, unless oil prices show significant declines. □



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## Warmth gives ugly invasive fish brief reprieve from anglers

By MEAD GRUVER

Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) --

Warm weather has helped grant a reprieve this year to a homely, eel-like and especially slimy invasive fish pursued by anglers as they compete for big money in two ice-fishing tournaments on the Wyoming-Utah line.

The goal of both annual events is to remove burbot (pronounced BUR'-but) from Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

Burbot are known for being best caught in frigid weather using smelly bait, for wrapping their slippery bodies around fishermen's arms - and for being delicious. Some call them the "poor man's lobster."

But wind and highs in the 50s have kept the reservoir mostly ice-free lately. Much of the remaining ice near shore is getting dicey to walk on.

"It's still about 6 inches thick, but we don't recommend going out on it now," said Les Tanner, owner of the Buckboard Marina and host of the Burbot Classic tournament.

Lack of ice cancelled the Jan. 23-25 Burbot Bash tournament. This weekend's



In this photo taken in 2014 and provided by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, an angler holds a Burbot caught during the 2014 Burbot Classic at the Flaming Gorge Reservoir in western Wyoming.

Associated Press

Burbot Classic is still on, but has been opened to fishing by boat and from shore.

Both events were coordinated with the Wyoming and Utah state game and fish agencies.

In each tournament, anglers can win up to \$10,000 for catching one of 50 burbot previously netted and released with electronic tags. Other cash prizes reward the biggest and the most burbot caught.

The problem is that burbot - which are native in Wyoming east of the Continental Divide and parts north - somehow got introduced to the Green River drainage west of the divide in the 1990s.

In Flaming Gorge, the voracious and prolific predators are eating the eggs and spawn of kokanee salmon and other game species that make the reservoir a renowned angling destination.

In Canada, burbot can top 25 pounds and 3 feet long. They don't get quite so big in Flaming Gorge but pose a risk to endangered species such as the Colorado pikeminnow if they continue to spread down the Colorado River system. A couple burbot have been caught in the Green River below the Flaming Gorge dam. "That's an endangered

species core habitat," said Joe Skorupski, a Wyoming Game and Fish Department fisheries biologist. "It's just another nonnative they don't need in that system. It's a definite, major threat."

Many fishermen out West would much rather flip dainty flies into the babbling lairs of trout than sit around in the cold and dark with a bloody hunk of bait on their line. But that's how you go for burbot: Ice fishing is best, hands-down. Burbot can be found from a few feet to more than 70 feet deep and typically are most active around dusk. Cut-up sucker fish hooked on glow-in-the-dark jigs make good bait.

Once caught, the bigger ones are known to wrap their slender bodies around the arm of whoever's removing the hook. Yuck. What fish is worth that?

"They're definitely really good to eat. They're a white, fleshy meat," said Skorupski, adding they can be fried or even boiled up as "poor man's lobster."

Fishermen not only can keep as many burbot as they can catch from Flaming Gorge, they must. Several hundred anglers have taken part in past Burbot Bash and Burbot Classic tournaments and participants in last year's events caught more than 6,000 burbot.

Biologists credit the Burbot Bash, started in 2009, and the Burbot Classic, begun last year, for having a big effect. Studies show burbot numbers in Flaming Gorge are down substantially in the past couple years.

"The fish are susceptible to angling," Skorupski said. "Without anglers, we would not be where we are today." □



Former California governor and Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger delivers a speech at the sideline of the 51.

Associated Press

## Schwarzenegger calls for more effort to fight climate change

MUNICH (AP) — Former California governor and Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger is calling for more to be done to combat climate change, saying it is "the issue of our time."

Speaking Sunday to a small group at the Munich security conference, where he introduced a new policy

paper "The Future of Energy," Schwarzenegger said his experience in California was that the adoption of green energy creates jobs and leads to energy independence.

He applauded formal efforts to come to new agreements to reduce carbon emissions and fight global

warming, but says there is no need for governments to wait for summits.

He says "we should be fighting climate change right now."

Schwarzenegger says the issue shouldn't be politicized and people should work together for solutions. He says "we all breathe the same air." □



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## 'SpongeBob' unseats 'Sniper' at weekend box office

**JAKE COYLE**  
**AP Film Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water" finally unseated Clint Eastwood's runaway hit "American Sniper" at the weekend box office, while a pair of high-priced fantasies flopped.

Paramount Pictures' "SpongeBob Movie" earned \$56 million in North America, a huge debut for the animated Nickelodeon big-screen transfer, according to estimates Sunday. That finally pushed "American Sniper" off the top spot after a three-week reign. The Navy SEAL drama took in \$24.2 million in its fourth week of wide release.

The Wachowskis' lavish science-fiction adventure "Jupiter Ascending" opened with just \$19 million, a meager amount for a \$175 million production. Warner Bros. delayed the release of the movie, starring Channing Tatum and Mila Kunis, from last summer.

Universal's "Seventh Son," a supernatural thriller set in medieval times, debuted with a scant \$7.1 million. The film, produced by Legendary Pictures and starring Jeff Bridges, cost nearly \$100 million to make.

That gave the box office a couple of lucrative hits and a pair of costly misses to lead the early February weekend.

The success of "The SpongeBob Movie," the second SpongeBob film following 2004's "The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie," proved the con-

tinuing appeal of the 16-year-old Nickelodeon character. The colorful, beach-set cartoon about the relentlessly chipper SpongeBob also capitalized on a marketplace hungry for family films in the midst of winter, well after the swath of holiday releases. On the same weekend last

hood." "Jupiter Ascending," which underwent reshoots, edits and a postponed release, continues a negative trend for the sibling directors, Lana and Andy Wachowski. The film marks their third flop since their hugely popular "Matrix" trilogy, following 2012's "Cloud Atlas" and 2008's

dous success of the Oscar-nominated "American Sniper," which will cross \$300 million by next weekend. Whereas "Sniper" paid off many times over, "Jupiter Ascending" will be costly. "You're betting with a lot of money," Goldstein said. "That's what's great about having a big slate

struggled at the box office.

But Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office firm Rentrak, credited Warner Bros. and Universal with trying to make original blockbusters, even if "Jupiter Ascending" (which did better overseas where it made \$32.5 million) and



This image released by Paramount Pictures and Nickelodeon Movies shows characters, from left, Squidward Tentacles, SpongeBob SquarePants, Sandy Cheeks, and Mr. Krabs in a scene from "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water."

Associated Press

year, Warner Bros.' "The Lego Movie" emerged as one of 2014's biggest hits.

"This movie played a little bit older than we initially thought it would," said Megan Colligan, president of worldwide distribution and marketing for Paramount. "It's a real tribute to Nickelodeon and the strength of the brand and how well they manage the brand. It's a beloved character that teenagers love from their child-

"Speed Racer."

"There's no question, at its inception when the movie was greenlit, we had higher expectations than what the actual result is," said Jeff Goldstein, head of domestic distribution for Warner Bros. "At the end of the day, the Wachowskis are fine filmmakers. This one didn't go quite as broadly as we all wanted, but they'll find a film that will."

Warner Bros. could take solace in the tremen-

because you'll have a film with 'American Sniper' that allows you to take risks. And sometimes your risks prove out and sometimes your risks don't."

"Seventh Son," a mystical epic co-starring Julianne Moore, is based on Joseph Delaney's 2004 fantasy novel "The Spook's Apprentice." It's another in a string of disappointments for Bridges, whose last two movies — "The Giver" and "R.I.P.D." — also

"Seventh Son" fell short. "Both faced challenges of originality. They're too original, in a way, and sci-fi is not an inexpensive genre to create on the big screen," Dergarabedian said. "While audiences complain about the lack of originality, I at least admire studios who say: 'Let's put some budget behind something brand new.' But it seems like time after time, audiences close the door on that notion." □



## Jenner phone records, texts could be issue in crash probe

**MALIBU, California (AP)** — Investigators will likely ask Olympic gold medalist and Kardashian family patriarch Bruce Jenner to surrender his cellphone to determine if he was texting when he was behind the wheel of an SUV involved in a high-way crash in Malibu that killed a woman, authorities said Sunday.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Philip Brooks said that all the drivers involved in Saturday's multi-vehicle accident will likely be asked to voluntarily provide their phones so investigators can check call and text data.

Investigators could also request search warrants, if necessary.

The information gleaned from those records could help inform prosecutors, if they were to consider charges against the drivers involved.

However, Brooks said it is difficult to determine if a driver was texting at the

exact time of a collision. Investigators will look at signs of driver behavior such as multiple texts that span a period of time leading up to, or including, the crash, Brooks said.

The sheriff's department has custody of all the vehicles and will be inspecting them to ensure they're mechanically sound or whether a defect prevented somebody from stopping in time.

Investigators are trying to determine who or what triggered the crash on the Pacific Coast Highway. One woman died in the crash, and seven others were injured.

The celebrity gossip website TMZ first reported that the department could issue a search warrant to determine if Jenner was texting at the time of the accident.

The moment of impact was captured by celebrity photographers who quickly posted the images on the

Internet. Los Angeles County Sheriff's officials said there was no indication Jenner was being chased by paparazzi at the time of the crash.

"Being a celebrity, he is often followed by paparazzi. He was aware of that, and it doesn't appear he took any evasive action to avoid the paparazzi," Brooks said. Authorities said Jenner cooperated with investigators, passed a field sobriety test and voluntarily submitted a blood sample to determine whether he was intoxicated, Brooks said.

"He did not appear intoxicated or under the influence of anything at the time," the sergeant said.

Jenner's publicist, Alan Nierob, said Jenner wasn't hurt, but he offered no additional details.

Jenner was going north when his black Cadillac Escalade rear-ended a Lexus sedan that had just struck the back of a black Toyota Prius, Brooks said. The Lexus



**A Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputy photographs the scene of a car crash where one person was killed and at least seven other's were injured, Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015. Associated Press**

veered into oncoming traffic and collided head-on with a black Hummer.

The driver of the Lexus — a 69-year-old woman — was pronounced dead at the scene.

Photos of the crash site showed the white Lexus mangled in the front and back, facing the Hummer, which had a heavily damaged engine and its hood popped open. Jenner's Escalade, which was pulling

an off-road vehicle, had a damaged front end.

The crash comes at a time of widespread talk that Jenner, 65, is becoming a woman.

Though Jenner himself has declined public comment, those in his inner circles have not challenged the mounting speculation that he is preparing to live as a woman and perhaps will appear in a new reality series about his transition. □

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**ORANJESTAD-** Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the RIO Hotel, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also



Owner Benjamin Petrocchi

available at their Tobacco farm where their cigars are grown and rolled. Winner of the best of Aruba. The best local product. Cigars in Tubes Arubian design.



For a group or private tour, call 586-7833 / 593-6177 or send them an email at [aruhibacigars@gmail.com](mailto:aruhibacigars@gmail.com) [www.aruhibacigars.com](http://www.aruhibacigars.com)





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